

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 27, 2003

Present: Brian McDonald, Chair; Douglas Cook, Co-Chair; Jonathan Wallace;
David Bougher; Thomas Reynolds

Guests: Ginger Esenwine, Forrest Esenwine, Rodman Wilson, Chuck Metcalf,
Matt Pelletier, Rebequa McKinney, Frank Campana, Denise Dorey, Donald
Burke, Bruce Benzel, Lonnie Benzel, Sherry Butt Dunham, Teresa Guay, Joshua
Guay, Chad Clark, Mike Geha, Paul Morin, Frank Bolton, Kate Rhodenigia,
Kenneth Cox, Chris Bolton, Elaine Pierson, Evelyn Connor

The selectmen's meeting was held at the town office building. Chairman
McDonald commenced the meeting at 6:30 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

1. Public Participation

-Rebequa McKinney commended the police for their handling of an incident at her
home. She especially praised Chief Rigney, Detective Bedanza, Sergeant Carney,
Officer Geha, and Officer Cox.

2. Nonpublic Session

Motion by Chairman McDonald to enter nonpublic session at 6:45 PM under RSA
91-A:2 (a) to discuss hiring. Seconded by Selectman Wallace. Chairman McDonald
yes, Selectman Cook yes, Selectman Wallace yes, Selectman Reynolds yes,
Selectman Bougher yes. In attendance were Chairman McDonald, Selectman
Cook, Selectman Wallace, Selectman Reynolds, Selectman Bougher, James
Blouin, and Chuck Metcalf.

-There was a discussion of hiring James Blouin for Parks and Rec.

-There was a discussion of hiring a replacement for the town assessor.

-There was discussion of pay for the substitute Administrative Coordinator.

Motion by Chairman McDonald to exit nonpublic session at 7:10 PM. Seconded by
Selectman Bougher. Chairman McDonald yes, Selectman Cook yes, Selectman
Wallace yes, Selectman Reynolds yes, Selectman Bougher yes.

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Motion by Chairman McDonald to hire James Blouin for Parks and Rec. at \$9.00 per hour. Seconded by Selectman Reynolds. Motion approved 5-0.

Motion to set the pay of the substitute Administrative Coordinator at \$17.50 per hour. Seconded by Selectman Bougher. Motion approved 4-0, Selectman Reynolds abstaining.

3. Old Business

-Selectman Bougher suggested getting a legal opinion on the \$10,000 warrant article.

-Selectman Cook said that a petition warrant article was never recieved by the clerk, and is presumably lost.

4. New Business

-There was a discussion of the petition warrant article on growth control. Chairman McDonald said that under state law, the article was brought by the wrong route. Planning Board Chair Paul Morin argued that the article went through the right route from the planning board to the selectmen. McDonald said that according to attorneys, the article is unenforceable and there would be a liability issue if it was put on the ballot. Paul Morin said that one problem is that the article didn't go through the planning board. McDonald said that there is not enough evidence that there is a serious problem with growth and that if there is a problem, there is enough time to respond. McDonald added that the petitioners did no wrong, and he apologized for any inconveniences. Paul Morin said that in the opinion of attorney Dresher, the article was unenforceable but it had to be put on the ballot. Neal Kurk, the town moderator, said that he helped to draft the article but he will not disclose the author. Selectman Wallace said that he didn't believe the town moderator's duties include aiding in drafting. Forrest Esenwine, a petitioner, said that the board spent town money for legal advice without a recorded vote, and he argued that the law says the warrant must be put on the ballot. Frank Bolton said that he was highly offended by the procedure, and that he believes the board is discouraging petitioners. He also asked why the board sought a second legal opinion and said that nothing has been done regarding growth. Selectman Reynolds said that without a court opinion, he would have voted to leave the article on the ballot. Evelyn Connor, the town clerk, gave her opinion that the selectmen did what they thought best. Helene Kurk said that she was insulted by the board's comments. Brenda Lashway said that she didn't know if the article could be put on the ballot or not, but she felt the town had been put in a bad situation. Selectman Bougher said he was sorry that the summonses went out without warning. Rodman Wilson asked who authorized the summonses. Chairman McDonald replied that it was the court.

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-There was a discussion of the Finance Committee's recommendations. The finance committee voted against the latest operating budget. Gene Bilodeau asked about a discrepancy of about \$19,000 and asked where the additional money will come from. Bilodeau stated that the budget does not add up to the bottom line. Rebequa KcKinney asked if the town approved two new officers or raises for the officers. She gave her opinion that the police department deserved all the help the town could offer. Selectman Wallace agreed. Police Chief Miles Rigney said that in working with the finance committee he had found that many of the members of the committee are biased against the police department. Frank Bolton apologised for his comments against the police department and agreed that he was out of line. Forrest Esenwine said that the Weare police have been vilified and that all complaints against the department, excepting the two wrecked cruisers, had been proven false. Selectman Wallace agreed completely. Selectman Wallace added that the board of selectmen has been vilified, citing the Stone Fund and Mount Dearborn Road

-The warrant was signed

Motion by Selectman Wallace to not recommend Article 53 on the warrant.

Seconded by Selectman Reynolds. Motion approved 5-0.

Motion by Chairman McDonald to not recommend Article 52 on the warrant.

Seconded by Selectman Bougher. Motion approved 5-0

Motion by Selectman Bougher to reconsider vote of Article 45 of the warrant.

There was no second.

-Secretary Cyrus Perron left at 11:40 PM

Motion by chairman McDonald to authorize the board of selectmen to sign manifests and order the treasurer to sign checks dated January 30, 2003.

Accounts Payable \$386,291.35 and Gross Payrolls \$39,040.95 for a total of \$425,332.30. Seconded by Selectman Bougher. Motion approved 5-0.

Motion by Chairman McDonald to authorize combining the two CDs from the bond of \$13,500 and \$9000 into one CD totaling \$22,500. Seconded by Selectman Reynolds. Motion approved 5-0.

Motion by Chairman McDonald to adjourn at 12:30 PM. Seconded by Selectman Cook. Motion approved 5-0.

Cyrus Perron

Secretary